Y. Taya et al. U.S.S.N. 09/618,424 Page 2

Subject.

the acetylated peptide substrate as compared to the control amount.

B2

23. (amended) A kit for screening method of claim 23, comprising an anti-acetylated antibody.

## **REMARKS**

Claims 16 and 23 have been amended to address matters of form. No new matter has been added by virtue of those amendments.

Moreover, it is believed the amendments made be properly entered at this time, i.e. after final rejection, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.116 because the amendments do not require a new search or raise any new issues, and they reduce issues for appeal. Indeed, the amendments obviate an objection and a Section 112, second paragraph rejection. Entry of the amendments art this time is earnestly solicited.

It is believed the objection to claim 23 has been obviated by the formal-type amendment (correction of dependency) made herein.

Claims 16-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

While Applicants disagree with the rejection, it is also believed the rejection has been obviated by the formal-type amendment of claim 16 made herein. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 16-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claims 16-19, 21 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Lill et al. (Nature article).